AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In response to the Notice of Drawing Inconsistency With Specification, indicating that: **(2) Figures 3n, 3o, 11y, 11z are contained in the Drawings but not listed in the Brief Description of the Drawings in the Specification**, Applicants request that the Brief Description of the Drawings be amended as follows.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a computer system with a distributed processing system;

FIGS. 2a-2b are block and flow diagrams of a distributed network management system;

FIGS. 2c-2j are block and flow diagrams of distributed network management system clients and servers;

FIG. 3a is a block diagram of a logical system model;

FIGS. 3b and 3d-3f are flow diagrams depicting a software build process using a logical system model;

FIG. 3c is a flow diagram illustrating a method for allowing applications to view data within a database;

FIG. 3g is a flow diagram depicting a configuration process;

FIGS. 3h and 3j are flow diagrams depicting template driven network services provisioning processes;

FIGS. 3i and 3k-3m are screen displays of an OSS client and various templates;

FIGS. 3n and 3o are ordered list of tasks, including execute commands followed by a provisioning template type, making up a batch template type;

FIGS. 4a-4z, 5a-5z, 6a-6p, 7a-7y, 8a-8e, 9a-9n, 10a-10i, 11a-11k, 11n-11o, 11s and 11x are screen displays of graphical user interfaces;

FIGS. 11l-11m are tables representing data in a configuration database;

FIGS. 11p-11r and 11t-11u are tables representing data in a network management system (NMS) database;

FIG. 11v is a block and flow diagram representing the creation of a user profile logical managed object including one or more groups;

FIG. 11w is a block and flow diagram of a network management system implementing user profiles and groups across multiple databases;

FIG. 11y is a block and flow diagram of a network management system implementing user profiles and groups across multiple databases;

FIG. 11z is a representative diagram of an NMS server or a pop-up menu;

FIGS. 12a and 13a are block and flow diagrams of a computer system incorporating a modular system architecture and illustrating a method for accomplishing hardware inventory and setup;

FIGS. 12b-12c and 14a-14f are tables representing data in a configuration database;

FIG. 13b is a block and flow diagram of a computer system incorporating a modular system architecture and illustrating a method for configuring the computer system using a network management system;

FIGS. 13c and 13d are block and flow diagrams of an accounting subsystem for pushing network device statistics to network management system software;

FIG. 15 is a block and flow diagram of a line card and a method for executing multiple instances of processes;

FIGS. 16a-16b are flow diagrams illustrating a method for assigning logical names for inter-process communications;

FIG. 16c is a block and flow diagram of a computer system incorporating a modular system architecture and illustrating a method for using logical names for inter-process communications;

FIG. 16d is a chart representing a message format;

FIGS. 17-19 are block and flow diagrams of a computer system incorporating a modular system architecture and illustrating methods for making configuration changes;

FIG. 20a is a block diagram of a packaging list;

FIG. 20b is a flow diagram of a software component signature generating process;

FIGS. 20c and 20e are screen displays of graphical user interfaces;

FIG. 20d is a block and flow diagram of a network device incorporating a modular system architecture and illustrating a method for installing a new software release;

FIG. 21a is a block and flow diagram of a network device incorporating a modular system architecture and illustrating a method for upgrading software components;

FIGS. 21b and 21g are tables representing data in a configuration database;

FIGS. 21c-21f are screen displays of graphical user interfaces;

FIG. 22 is a block and flow diagram of a network device incorporating a modular system architecture and illustrating a method for upgrading a configuration database within the network device;

FIG. 23 is a block and flow diagram of a network device incorporating a modular system architecture and illustrating a method for upgrading software components;

FIG. 24 is a block diagram representing processes within separate protected memory blocks;

FIG. 25 is a block and flow diagram of a line card and a method for accomplishing vertical fault isolation;

FIG. 26 is a block and flow diagram of a computer system incorporating a hierarchical and configurable fault management system and illustrating a method for accomplishing fault escalation.

FIG. 27 is a block diagram of an application having multiple sub-processes;

FIG. 28 is a block diagram of a hierarchical fault descriptor;

FIG. 29 is a block and flow diagram of a computer system incorporating a distributed redundancy architecture and illustrating a method for accomplishing distributed software redundancy;

FIG. 30 is a table representing data in a configuration database;

FIGS. 31a-31c, 32a-32c, 33a-33d and 34a-34b are block and flow diagrams of a computer system incorporating a distributed redundancy architecture and illustrating methods for accomplishing distributed redundancy and recovery after a failure;

FIG. 35 is a block diagram of a network device;

FIG. 36 is a block diagram of a portion of a data plane of a network device;

FIG. 37 is a block and flow diagram of a network device incorporating a policy provisioning manager;

FIGS. 38 and 39 are tables representing data in a configuration database;

FIG. 40 is an isometric view of a network device;

FIGS. 41a-41c are front, back and side block diagrams, respectively, of components and modules within the network device of FIG. 40;

FIG. 42 is a block diagram of dual mid-planes;

FIG. 43 is a block diagram of two distributed switch fabrics and a central switch fabric;

FIG. 44 is a block diagram of the interconnections between switch fabric central timing subsystems and switch fabric local timing subsystems;

FIG. 45 is a block diagram of a switch fabric central timing subsystem;

FIG. 46 is a state diagram of master/slave selection for switch fabric central timing subsystems;

FIG. 47 is a block diagram of a switch fabric local timing subsystem;

FIG. 48 is a state diagram of reference signal selection for switch fabric local timing subsystems;

FIG. 49 is a block diagram of the interconnections between external central timing subsystems and external local timing subsystems;

FIG. 50 is a block diagram of an external central timing subsystem;

FIG. 51 is a timing diagram of a first timing reference signal with an embedded second timing signal;

FIG. 52 is a block diagram of an embeddor circuit;

FIG. 53 is a block diagram of an extractor circuit;

FIG. 54 is a block diagram of an external local timing subsystem;

FIG. 55 is a block diagram of an external central timing subsystem;

FIG. 56 is a block diagram of a network device connected to test equipment through programmable physical layer test ports;

FIG. 57 is a block and flow diagram of a network device incorporating programmable physical layer test ports;

FIG. 58 is a block diagram of a test path table;

FIG. 59 is a block and flow diagram of a network management system incorporating proxies to improve NMS server scalability;

FIGS. 60a-60n are tables representing data in a configuration database;

FIG. 61a is a block diagram representing a physical managed object;

FIG. 61b is a block diagram representing a proxy;

FIG. 62 is a screen display of a dialog box;

FIG. 63 is a block diagram of a network device connected to an NMS;

FIG. 64 is a table representing data in an NMS database;

FIG. 65 is a block and flow diagram of a threshold management system;

FIG. 66a-66e are screen displays of a graphical user interface;

FIG. 67 is a screen display of a threshold dialog box;

FIGS. 68, 69a-69b, 70a-70b and 71 are tables representing data in a configuration database;

FIG. 72a is a front, isometric view of a power distribution unit;

FIG. 72b is a rear, isometric view of the power distribution unit of FIG. 72a without a cover;

FIG. 73a is a rear, isometric view of a network device chassis including dual midplanes;

FIGS. 73b-73c are enlarged views of portions of FIG. 73a;

FIG. 74 is a block and schematic diagram of a portion of a module including a power supply circuit;

FIGS. 75, 76 and 79 are screen displays of a Virtual Connection Wizard;

FIG. 77 is a screen display of a VPI dialog box;

FIG. 78 is a screen display of a VPI/VCI dialog box;

FIGS. 80 and 81 are block and flow diagrams of a common command interface;

FIG. 82 is a block and flow diagram of an application including a command API and a display API; and

FIG. 83 is a block and flow diagram of an extended common command interface.